

HOUSE RESOLUTION 298
By Bunch

A RESOLUTION to recognize Virginia Jo Wyatt Shults on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Jo Wyatt Shults is one such estimable person, who has served with acumen and integrity for 40 years as a valuable employee of the First Baptist Church of Cleveland, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Jo Shults has also served faithfully for 30 years as a volunteer preschool and children's Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church; this remarkable lady proudly states that "Children are my mission!"; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Jo Wyatt was born and raised in Cleveland, Tennessee as the second of C.J. and Virgie Wyatt's seven children; she joined First Baptist Church during her junior year in high school; and

WHEREAS, on September 6, 1953, she was joined in holy matrimony with Arnold Ray Shults, and a bouncing baby girl, Jeanette was born to the loving couple on September 23, 1954; and

WHEREAS, after residing in Chicago for a period of time and then working as a bookkeeper in Cleveland, Mrs. Shults began her illustrious tenure with First Baptist Church on November 1, 1959; and

WHEREAS, during the past 40 years, Mrs. Shults has served the Church with diligence and dedication in diverse positions, including meritorious service as the music/education secretary under Music Director Mervin Altman; the pastor/financial secretary under Reverend David Walker and Reverend Bill Cropper; the financial secretary under Marvin Gibson; the assistant preschool director at the Church's Family Life Center under Nell Rose Ware; and as a kindergarten assistant at the Center; and

WHEREAS, even when she worked a full-time job elsewhere for nine years, Mrs. Shults continued to serve her church with distinction as a part-time financial secretary; and

WHEREAS, in May 2000, Mrs. Shults took a much deserved retirement, thus bringing to a close a brilliant career that stands unequalled in quality of service and dedication to duty; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her husband, Arnold and her daughter, Jeanette, Mrs. Shults is fortunate to share love and companionship with her grandson, Matthew; and

WHEREAS, Jo Shults exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to faith, family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Jo Shults has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their potential, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her peers and supervisors alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we extend to Virginia Jo Wyatt Shults our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors, as we salute her 40 years of devoted and proficient service to the First Baptist Church of Cleveland, Tennessee and its congregation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.